

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 BIB-01 SAJ-01

CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 /024 W

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P 171319Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5292

INFO USIA WASHDC PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SOPN, HU

SUBJ: VISA FOR VOA HUNGARIAN SERVICE CORRESPONDENT JOZSEF TAKACS

REF: BUDAPEST 0410, USIA 2996, MOSCOW 1452, USIA 2752.

1. MFA OFFICER FOR USA AFFAIRS TIVADAR IVAN CALLED IN  
PAO FEBRUARY 16 TO ADVISE HIM THAT TAKACS VISA APPLICATION  
HAS BEEN APPROVED.
2. IVAN THEN CAREFULLY EXPLAINED TO DACHI THAT DEPFONMIN  
NAGY IN TALKS WITH MCAULIFFE AND USIA ASSISTANT DIRECTOR  
SHIRLEY HAD DISCUSSED TWO SITUATIONS: VISAS FOR PRIVATE  
VISITS BY HUNGARIAN SERVICE STAFFERS AND VISAS FOR HUNGARIAN  
SERVICE CORRESPONDENTS WISHING TO COME TO HUNGARY IN JOURNA-  
LISTIC CAPACITY.
3. IVAN SAID THAT THE PRESENT TAKACS APPLICATION DID NOT  
COME UNDER EITHER CATEGORY, AND THEREFORE THE CONVER-  
SATIONS BETWEEN NAGY, MCAULIFFE AND SHIRLEY DID NOT APPLY  
IN THIS CASE. IVAN SAID QUOTE THE STATE DEPARTMENT  
SUBMITTED AN OFFICIAL VISA REQUEST FOR TAKACS TO VISIT  
HUNGARY AS GUEST OF THE AMERICAN EMBASSY BUDAPEST. WE PRESUME  
THEREFORE THAT THIS VISIT IS BY THE CHIEF OF THE VOA  
HUNGARIAN SERVICE FOR THE PURPOSE OF OFFICIAL CONSUL-  
TATIONS WITH THE AMERICAN EMBASSY. THIS IS A NEW

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TYPE OF REQUEST, FOR WHICH THERE IS NO PRECEDENT IN

THE PAST, AND WE HAVE INSTRUCTED OUR EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON TO ISSUE THE VISA. JUST SO THERE IS NO MISUNDERSTANDING, MR. TAKACS' VISA IS NOT ISSUED TO HIM IN HIS JOURNALISTIC CAPACITY BUT IN HIS OFFICIAL CAPACITY. ACCORDINGLY THE MFA PRESS SECTION IS NOT INVOLVED, AND WE ASSUME THAT MR. TAKACS WILL LIMIT HIS ACTIVITIES IN HUNGARY TO THE PURPOSES STATED ON THE STATE DEPARTMENT NOTE SUPPORTING HIS VISA APPLICATION UNQUOTE.

4. IVAN ADDED THAT ANY FUTURE VISA APPLICATIONS BY TAKACS OR OTHER VOA HUNGARIAN STAFFERS WISHING TO COME TO HUNGARY EITHER FOR PRIVATE VISITS OR AS CORRESPONDENTS WOULD BE JUDGED ON A CASE BY CASE BASIS AS DISCUSSED WITH MCAULIFFE AND WITH SHIRLEY (BUDAPEST 0410 AND MOSCOW 1452).

5. DACHI REPLIED THAT HE WOULD NOTIFY THE AMBASSADOR AND DEPARTMENT IMMEDIATELY OF IVAN'S COMMENTS.

6. COMMENT: MFA MAY HAVE DECIDED TO BACK UP DCM KOVACS AND AVOID ANY POSSIBLE EMBARRASSMENT TO HIM RESULTING FROM HIS ENCOURAGEMENT TO TAKACS AND REASSURANCES THAT VISA WOULD BE ISSUED, WITHOUT AT THE SAME TIME NEGATING THE NAGY-MCAULIFFE-SHIRLEY CONVERSATIONS. CLEVER MAGYARS, NOT WISHING TO BE PLACED IN AWKWARD POSITION OF DENYING TAKACS VISA APPLICATION, APPEAR TO HAVE DEvised NEW AND INGENIOUS SOLUTION. JUST POSSIBLE THAT CRABLIKE MOVEMENT IN THIS INSTANCE MAY BE PRELUDE TO EVOLUTIONARY PROCESS THAT NAGY HINTED AT IN HIS CONVERSATION WITH SHIRLEY.  
MCAULIFFE

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## Message Attributes

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